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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

Bulgaria

SUBJECT

 Military Activities/Call Up of Reserves/
 Commanding Of Village

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1. A tank unit was stationed in Lom, in the barracks outside of the city in a western direction, during Oct 53. ten tanks which were used every morning with troops and officers on training missions outside of the barracks in the vicinity of Lom.
2. The frontier guard in the village of Golemanovo, Kula Okoliya, consists of three officers and 70 troops. During November 1953 the staff of the frontier troops which was located in Golemanovo, Kula Okoliya, was transferred to Boynitsa, Kula Okoliya.
3. Reservists who were serving in the labor troops were called up for training during September, October, November, and December of 1953 throughout Bulgaria. These reserves were called up for training in the barracks. The trudovaks were called up during the inactive season when the work of various military projects had ended. These trudovaks were trained with new weapons which were sent for the rearming of the Bulgarian army by the Soviet Union. The reserve labor troop units are filled mainly with sons of members of the opposition or by young people who are not reliable in the opinion of the Communist regime. Their life in the barracks is very severe; they have to work according to very high norms. The food is bad and the clothing is worn out. It is a real slave camp.
4. In various resorts such as Cham Koriya Berkovitsa, Knyazhevo, Soluderven, and Khis-arya there are many villas. The state rents them from 300-400 leva, but it puts a tax on them which amounts to a thousand leva and in this way forces the private owners to sell them. The government buys them for a very low price and these villas serve to house members of the State Security, and Soviet specialists, which have increased in numbers during October 1953. Many of these specialists are officers in uniform with ranks above major and up to colonel of the Soviet Army.

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